



The Oscillator



"ALL THE ELECTRONS THAT ARE FIT TO FLOW . . . "

The Official Newsletter of the DVHRC

Volume 17, No. 7 July 2009



Annual DVHRC Tailgate Auction

Tuesday, July 14, 7PM

NOTE THE EARLY START TIME!!

in the Telford Community Center Parking lot (indoors if rain)

The tailgate auction is an opportunity to fill your pickup or car trunk with all those things that you've been meaning to get rid of. No sales commission for this auction. So, load 'er up!

JUNE MEETING NOTES

Hard to believe that we are coming up on the July 2009 meeting, but it's true. Summer is here. The July meeting will feature our annual tailgate auction held in the parking lot next to the meeting hall. Please note the start time for the July meeting will be 7:00 PM. This is to insure we'll have enough daylight to hold the walk-around auction. Assuming the weather will cooperate, we'll be in the parking lot. If not, we'll move inside. Our auctioneer will move from vehicle to vehicle and there will be no commission collected for this auction.

Now back to the June meeting... Stan called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. There were reports on the North Wales and Lansdale Community Day's where the club had table set up. They reported

many interested passersby. The treasurer's report was brief as the bank statement hadn't arrived. I can now report the treasury is now over \$10,000. Now a lot of that has to be paid out for the two auctions held at Kutztown; however, the club is in OK shape financially.

SHOW AND TELL...

We had four "show and tells" at the meeting. First off, Walt Peters showed two of his table top radio projects: a wooden cabinet Crosley and an Airline repainted with Krylon Fusion red. Both sets looked great.



Dave Snellman showed a common Simpson 260 VOM (Volt-ohm-milliammeter) picked up at the May Kutztown meet and the rarer Simpson 360-2 Digital Volt-ohm-milliammeter. The 260 has 20,000 ohms/volt DC sensitivity and 5,000 ohms/volt AC sensitivity, whereas, the 360 has an input impedance of 10 megaohms.



Chuck Azzalina showed a beautiful dealer display of RCA's "Magic Brain." This was supposed to be used by dealers to boost radio sales in the 1930's.

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The Oscillator is the monthly newsletter of the Delaware Valley Historic Radio Club. We welcome information relating to radio and television history and collecting. Submissions should be emailed to saegers@ptd.net by the 25th of the prior month.

Personal views, opinions and technical advice do not necessarily reflect those of the members, officers or Board of Directors of the DVHRC, not is the DVHRC responsible for any buying or selling transactions.

Dues are \$20 per year and can be paid at a meeting or mailed to the above address.

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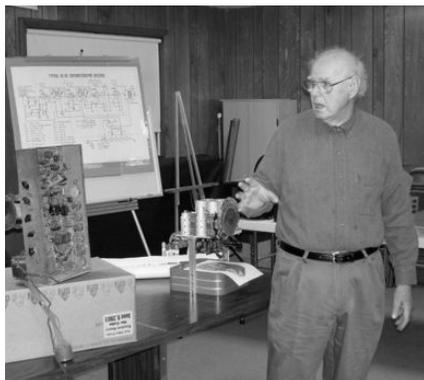
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The “Brain” sits on a display with cut-a-ways showing components as well as a mirror for viewing under the chassis. Not certain how successful it was at selling radios, but it is mighty impressive as a display piece.



Last up was Ted Sorwika with “kit” TV that he and his brother built. The kit came with a pre-punched metal chassis and parts were bought separately. It used electrostatic deflection for the tube. It received only channel 3 - as that was the only active station when it was built. Ted said the total cost to build it was roughly \$70 (in 1947.) It was nice to see a vintage TV kit that survived all these years.



The usual club auction followed.

After the auction Lewie Newhard took us through the first installment of “radio repair 101 - the All-American Fiver.”

Lewie has put together a great tutorial on radio repair and troubleshooting for all club members that are interested in learning how to repair their own radios. He is starting out with the AA5 and has broken the tutorial down into short sessions. They are being held after the normal club meeting. Lewie is going to take step-by-step through the set the way he works on a set. This may not be the only way to troubleshoot and repair a set; however, Lewie has many years experi-

ence in electronics and radio repair.

Here is the first session re-cap (no pun intended.) Don’t just plug it in and see what happens!!! The first step to troubleshooting a set is to do a thorough visual inspection. This will probably mean removing the chassis from its cabinet. Check the line cord. Check the back of the set. Remove the chassis, this will mean removing the knobs. Check whether they are screwed on, or just pressed on. They might be glued on. They may be able to be pulled straight off by wrapping nylons around the knobs and pulling. Don’t use screwdrivers to pry them off. Knobs could break and you could damage the cabinet. (Note: If you need knobs, check with Mike Koste.) Holes in the paper speaker cone can be repaired by gluing.

Look for previous repairs. Check solder joints. Look for leaky capacitors and charred resistors and other burn marks on the chassis. Now we’re going to work with a schematic.

Some sets will have a speaker that employs a field coil (electromagnetic) that would provide a constant current to the speaker. C11 would be 20-30 microfarads. The schematic would look different from the one shown. The permanent magnet style of speaker is shown. C11 would have a value of 47-50 microfarads.

These are transformer-less radios. An isolation transformer

should be used when working on this type of set. In addition, a variac would be helpful. Please note: variac's are not isolation transformers!

35W4 - the rectifier incorporates a tap for operating the pilot lamp, 150 mA. Always put a pilot lamp in its socket, or replace it if it tests open. Use a 47 lamp.

Using a variac, apply 50 to 80 Volts to the set. You might hear some hum. If you use the output scale on you Simpson 260 you see 2-3 volts ripple between the cathode and ground of a 35W4.

C6 is a "bastard" part. If shorted it puts DC voltage on the grid of the power output tube. The value of C6 can affect the frequency response of the set.

Use a 600 volt cap when replacing.

If you change the tube (35W4) please note a cold filament can cause the pilot lamp to pop. Use the VARIAC again, set to 70 volts.

Another thing you might have to check is the speakers leads to the cone. They can be glued back in place and tried again.

C7 holds the cathode of V4 constant. It may be part of a three section cap, along with C10 and C11. Also check R4, R5, R6 and R8. R8 could be charred. R4 could be open or have gone "high."

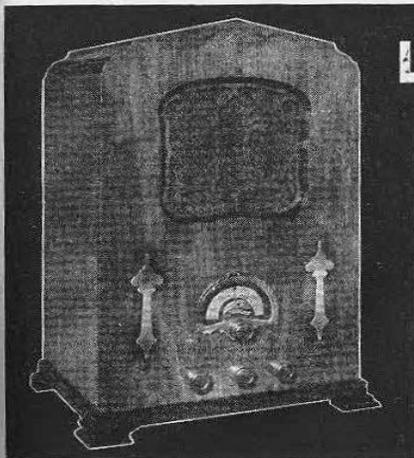
Replace the filters. Use WD-40 (or appropriate cleaner) on the switch and volume control. Follow the plan of attack from the

back of the set: power supply, audio amplifier, volume control.

After you've gone through all this and verified it, you've got a working phono amplifier! Hopefully I haven't put too many words in Lewie's mouth - or left too many out for that matter. It was an excellent presentation and I know I'm looking forward to the next "stage," next time.

Remember, if you need parts for your repair project, the club has tubes for sale at reasonable cost, check with Dave Dean. Capacitors and pilot lamps are also available, check with Ted Sorwika.

See you at the tailgate auction on July 14.
- Dave Snellman



LIVING ROOM TELEVISION

Attractive, compact, efficient and exceedingly simple to operate, the latest Jenkins equipment is designed specifically for living-room use. A large production on both Jenkins Universal Receiver and Jenkins Projector-Radiovisor brings television entertainment well within reach of everyone located in a television service area.

JD-30 Radio and Television Receiver

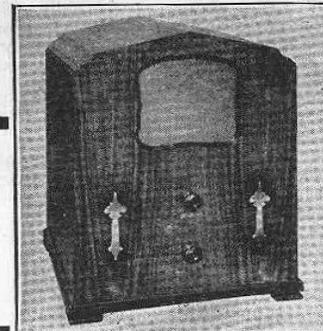
Finest television receiver yet produced for home use, PLUS the highest grade broadcast receiver. Interchangeable coils and circuits permit quick change from visual to aural reception. Highly sensitive. Balanced selectivity for broadcast or television signals. Flat amplification from 20 cycles to highest picture frequency used. Two '45s provide sufficient output for crater lamp radiovisor. Fully A.C. operated. Phonograph jack. Radiovisor leads. Throwover switch. No coils to change. Dynamic loud-speaker. Dynamic speaker. PRICE \$79.50. With set of 8 matched DeForest tubes.

R-400 Projector Radiovisor

An entirely new conception of home television. Picture thrown on screen. Exceptionally clear image, made possible by latest DeForest crater neon lamp and Jenkins lens scanning disc. 60-cycle synchronous motor with continuous framing feature. Picture can be viewed comfortably by a dozen persons and from the sides without distortion. Simple to operate. Quiet. Housed in an attractive, compact cabinet to match the companion Universal Receiver.

ORDER NOW! You can enjoy the most advanced form of television reception right now. Make your home a center of interest while television is still a curiosity. Send your order—cash or C.O.D.—get started now! Or if you wish more details, write for literature.

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LOOKING BACK . . .

From the April 1994 issue of *The Oscillator*:

The long-awaited break in the weather made March the best attended club meeting in recent memory. With nearly half of the DVHRC Membership present, it was also a pleasant surprise to meet the number of wives and significant others who joined in the fun. In addition, we conducted one of our best auctions ever, with a variety of quality items on the block including a nice Radiola III, a very restorable Philco 41-290 console, a new in-the-box Tempest transistor, three different Zenith Royal portables, an AK-20 and a Scott SLRM Marine Receiver..... **JIM JAMAN** reports that DVHRC T-Shirts (\$8.50) and baseball caps (\$4.50) are now available!! He'll make the purchase as soon as he has orders for a dozen of each. Reserve yours now by calling Jim at (215) 234-8488..... The Club Restoration Project is now half complete. **JOE CANDIDI** caught the entire process on film and will be presenting a slide show of the restoration at a future meeting. The '37 Freed-Eisemann will be raffled off at the June swapmeet.....In travel news, **SYLVIA MOLETIERRE** motored down to Charlotte, NC for the 18th Annual AWA Spring Meet and Pig Pickin' in late March. The same weekend, **BILL WADE** and **BILL OVERBECK** headed West for Radio Spring Fever in Washington, PA.....DVHRC Librarian **CHARLIE CLASS** announces the donation of a group of United Motors car radio service literature. (If you have items to contribute to the Club Archives, or need to check out a manual, schematic or service notes, check with Charlie at the next meeting).....With the return of Spring Yard Sailing, be on the lookout for late '50's Sorvictas --- many feel they could be the next big thing in radio collecting.....Due to a packed agenda in March, our usually formal Show & Tell became somewhat of a free-for-all, but if you moved quickly and worked the room, you may have gotten a glimpse at the Bill Burkett videotape on transistor collecting and a couple of unusual German tape recorders from the **OVERBECK** Collection. **ALEX VOROS**, who never ceases to amaze, showed off his recently acquired Regency TR-1 (the first transistor radio) and an amusing novelty set shaped like a Commodore adding machine. Not to be outdone, **TONY MOLETIERRE** offered a marbled plastic AM transmitter that closely resembled a drive-in movie speaker.....Lots of interest in the crystal radio kit item in last month's Oscillator. The Little Debbie Snack Cake people have to be wondering about the sudden surge in sales here in Tastykake Territory....Many thanks to noted New Jersey collector **HARRY POSTER** for the complimentary copy of his newly published Radio & TV Price Guide. Placed up for auction, the \$17.95 edition sold for \$28.00, benefiting the Club Treasury.



J.R.C.

RADIO TUBES

Thoroughbreds of Radio

Write for booklet of JRC tubes with pictures and stories of famous thoroughbreds

WE could make a lot of claims for JRC tubes but we prefer to let the tubes do their own talking.

Judge them by tone quality and by every other test of fine reception. Performance, not claims, made JRC tubes the thoroughbreds of radio.



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